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# Van to Jim, 5 October 1962

Van L. Perkins

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BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY  
PROVO, UTAH



ERNEST L. WILKINSON, PRESIDENT

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

October 5, 1962

Professor James W. Silver  
Department of History  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Mississippi

Dear Jim:

With the spotlight so brightly focused on Ole Miss these past couple of weeks, you have been very much on my mind. I suppose that all of this can't help but make your situation there more hazardous, considering the reputation you have developed for being some kind of radical, but I trust that your demonstrated ability to outmaneuver your enemies will stand you in good stead. Regardless of your personal feelings about Meredith or regarding integration, I can't help but believe that the setback Mississippi government has taken will, in the long run, aid you in your struggle for a general liberalizing of the Mississippi situation. True, the immediate effect will be to strengthen Barnett, but in due time we can hope that the moderate element both in Mississippi and in the South generally will gain from this.

I just thought that it might be well to let you know that one of your non-Mississippi friends has been thinking of you.

Sincere best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Van".  
Van L. Perkins

VLP/rt